

The Sun

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Mr. Jerome and His Bill.

The District Attorney is fighting for his so-called Canfield bill with all the energy that he manifests whenever the public interests seem to him to require special efforts in the way of personal activity. We believe that an overwhelming preponderance of honest sentiment in this town and throughout the State is now behind Mr. JEROME.

He is working for the impartial enforcement of the criminal law. This bill to facilitate the conviction of influential lawbreakers has passed the Senate by a non-partisan vote. It is held up in the Assembly or defeated there the real reason will be such as no opponent of the measure will dare to say.

In his brief submitted yesterday at Albany District Attorney JEROME disposed of the only respectable argument against the enactment of the bill which any legislator had been able to offer, namely, that a law permitting in the prosecution of crime the use of evidence that was not legally available when the crime was committed, would be an *ex post facto* law and therefore unconstitutional. Mr. JEROME cited among other opinions this clear definition from the Supreme Court's decision in the case of *Hurt v. Utah*:

"Statutes which simply enlarge the class of persons who may be competent to testify in criminal cases are not *ex post facto* in their application to prosecutions for crimes committed prior to their passage, for they do not attach criminality to any act previously done which was innocent when done, nor aggravate any crime theretofore committed, nor provide a greater punishment therefor than was prescribed at the time of its commission, nor do they alter the degree or lessen the amount or measure of the proof which was made necessary to conviction when the crime was committed."

"Alterations of the legal rules of evidence which only remove existing restrictions upon the competency of certain classes of persons as witnesses relate to modes of procedure only, in which no one can be said to have a vested right and which the State, upon grounds of public policy, may regulate at pleasure."

The only argument now left to the obstructionists of even-handed justice seems to be that it is not public policy to permit the officer charged with the prosecution of criminals to bring to the bar a rich and powerful criminal who has defied the law for years, and to convict him, if he is guilty, through the evidence of this or that rich witness with influential connections who may be annoyed at the idea of going upon the stand in such a trial.

If the Assemblymen heed the voice of the people they will uphold this fearless officer in his attempt to enforce the law equally against all lawbreakers. They will refuse to constitute class distinctions in the matter of witnesses in gambling cases. They will give more power to JEROME's honest elbow.

Secretary Hitchcock at Sixty-nine.

The unreasonably hale and vigorous gentleman who administers the affairs of the Interior Department and bosses the venerable WARE of the Pension Bureau was born on Sept. 19, 1835. He is in his sixty-ninth year.

This circumstance imparts a humorous flavor to the Hon. ETHEL ALLEN HITCHCOCK's remarks in defence of the Executive order fixing the age of 62 as the age of natural infirmity, disability and incapacity to earn a support, in the case of veterans of the civil war.

According to the Secretary's argument, he has not only passed the beginning of the age of infirmity but is tottering on the brink of absolute senile helplessness. Contemplate this picture of the man in his sixties:

"It is well understood that there is a natural decay of the physical powers due solely to age, which impairs a man's capacity to earn a support by his own manual labor. Not only does the act itself provide that each and every infirmity shall be duly considered, but the decisions under it uniformly recognize the principle that disabilities due to senility alone are pensionable. * * * The order in question merely lays down as a convenient rule of decision, and a rebuttable presumption of fact, that one who is otherwise entitled to a pension and is 62 years of age is partially disabled from earning a livelihood by his hands, that one who is 65 is still a greater degree incapable of earning a support by manual labor, and that one of 70 is completely disabled in this regard. Certainly, such a presumption is justified by general experience in actual life."

Although by his own showing the Secretary long ago arrived at the age of infirmity which ought to enjoy exemption from the annoyances and toils of life, we venture to congratulate him on the fact that he yet has between seventeen and eighteen months before collapsing into utter decrepitude.

The Men Who Cry "Home Rule."

In section 56 of the city Charter the power is conferred upon the Board of Estimate, the Board of Aldermen, and the Mayor, to fix the salaries of every person who draws compensation from the city treasury, except day laborers, teachers, and members of the supervising force of the Department of Education. This power is not restricted except by the provision that no change shall be made in the salary of an elected officer or head of a department during his tenure of office. The principle of "home rule" is here applied absolutely, and a power of the greatest importance is delegated by the State to the municipal corporation. Any other man who thinks he should receive a salary larger than that he now draws may apply to the Board of Estimate for an increase, and if he can

convince a majority of the members of the Board, and the Mayor, that his request is a just one, it will be granted.

Such a condition of affairs should delight the hearts of those who clamor on the stump for "home rule." It should lead to an entire abandonment of efforts to get the Legislature to raise the salaries of city employees. Tammany statesmen especially should refrain from asking the Legislature to invade the city and go over the heads of the city authorities in matters which they are perfectly competent to handle. But what is the fact?

Forty-seven bills increasing the pay of employees of the city have been introduced in the Legislature this year, according to the record kept by the City Club. Each of these bills with a subject completely within the jurisdiction of the city government. Thirty of these bills were introduced by Democrats, the loudest howlers for "home rule." Forty of these bills are mandatory, giving no discretion to the city government in their application. That stern advocate of home rule, THOMAS FRANCIS GRADY, is one of the men most conspicuous in these efforts to impose "hazy legislation" upon New York. That devoted disciple of autonomy, PATRICK HENRY MCCABREY, who learned a new lesson in autonomy at Coney Island on Tuesday, is another. They are, in fact, the most prominent leaders in these attacks upon New York's right to govern itself.

Behind them range lesser lights of Democracy, and some tallow dips of Republicanism, not one of whom lets slip an opportunity to mouth for "home rule," and not one of whom is really sincere in his attacks on "legislative interference." Should all the measures introduced by these defenders of the city become law, the salary list would be increased by \$1,018,280 a year, and "home rule" could go hang.

Mayor McCLELLAN does not look with favor on such measures as those introduced by GRADY, MCCABREY, and their fellows. They are, in effect, a declaration that his administration is incompetent to exercise the powers conferred upon it by the Legislature. Probably he will veto all of these bills, if they ever come before him. But they show in vivid colors the entire insincerity of some of the howls for home rule.

Some Recent Views of the American Revolution.

Many a protest has been heard on the other side of the Atlantic against the view of our Revolutionary War taken by Sir GEORGE OTTO TREVELYAN, who, in his recent history of the conflict between the mother country and her colonies, describes it as having been from beginning to end a struggle of vice against virtue. The latest protestant is Prof. J. K. LAUGHTON, who points out in the *National Review* that the Trevelyan conception of the contest differs essentially from that set forth by the late Mr. LECKEY, and also from that later promulgated by an American writer, Mr. SYDNEY GEORGE FISHER, in "The True History of the American Revolution."

There is no doubt that such can be said against Sir GEORGE TREVELYAN's assumption that the sole cause of colonial disaffection and of the quarrel with England was the question of taxation. The claim of a right to tax did, of course, excite much indignation, but a persistent attempt to exercise the alleged right would have been met by a "passive resistance," in face of which the law would have been powerless. The late JOHN FISKE showed that what kept colonial discontent alive, after the repeal of the Stamp Act, and so inflamed that SAMUEL ADAMS and his coadjutors found it easy to bring about friction and collision, was the invitation caused by the restrictions on industry and trade, and by the Navigation Act. Those restrictions the colonists had long been accustomed to evade by smuggling, and GEORGE GRENVILLE's inflexible determination to put down smuggling could hardly fail to turn the minds of many colonists toward political separation.

The resolve to suppress smuggling was reasonable enough from a British point of view, for recent experience had shown that New Englanders, in pursuit of their illegal traffic, were apt to overlook considerations of patriotism. It was well known to GRENVILLE and his colleagues that throughout the Seven Years War the shipowners of New England and New York had continued their trade with the French West Indian elements, and had supplied the French or Spanish enemy with naval stores. An official report from Vice-Admiral ADAMS, commanding at Jamaica in 1759, named twenty-eight vessels, most of them from Salem, Boston, Rhode Island, New London and New York, as being at one time in a single Spanish West Indian harbor.

Of the Boston "Tea Party," Sir GEORGE TREVELYAN adopts the view usually put forward in American school histories, the view, namely, that it was a somewhat violent but pardonable remonstrance against an insidious attempt to introduce the thin end of the wedge of taxation. Mr. LECKEY thought, on the contrary, that he could discern more significance in the incident, and attributed the act of violence to the fear entertained by the "Sons of Liberty" that the extreme patriots—that if the tea were once landed it would probably find purchasers, inasmuch as, owing to the drawback of the duty on exportation, the commodity could be sold in the colonies much cheaper than in England itself, and cheaper than tea imported from any other country. Prof. LAUGHTON suggests that, if it be true, as it has been asserted, that JOHN HANCOCK's wealth was chiefly made by smuggling tea from St. Eustatius, it is at least possible that he and his friends had at the time a large stock of tea on their hands, and were thus commercially interested in preventing the landing of the East India Company's consignments.

Of course SAMUEL ADAMS had no stock of tea to protect, and Mr. SYDNEY GEORGE FISHER ascribes the part which he is believed to have played in the Tea Party to a deliberate design to bring about a rupture with the mother country which would assist the Radical patriots to

arouse the spirit of their fellow colonists. Mr. FISHER, indeed, for his part, is convinced that the Revolution was a much more ugly and unpleasant affair than most of us have been taught to suppose. He is far from holding that all the acts of the British Government preceding the outbreak of the war were absurdly stupid, even from its own point of view, or that the loyalists were few in numbers and their arguments not worth considering. He cannot see, in fact, any advantage in not describing with due fulness and emphasis the smuggling, the buying of laws from colonial Governors and other irregular conduct in the colonies which led England to try to remodel them as soon as the fear of the French in Canada was removed.

Prof. LAUGHTON finds it by no means difficult to demonstrate that Sir GEORGE TREVELYAN had no business to speak of the enlisting of Hessian and other German soldiers as an enormity peculiar to GEORGE III.'s Ministers and the American War. He recalls that, throughout the whole range of modern history, Germany had been the recruiting ground for Europe; but, passing over the Continental wars of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, he deems it sufficient to remind Sir GEORGE that the Highland rising of 1745 was largely crushed by means of Hessian troops imported for the purpose. If, asks Prof. LAUGHTON, it was so terribly heinous an offence for GEORGE III. to send Hessian troops to put down a rebellion in the colonies against English authority, what was it for GEORGE III. to call in Hessians to settle on British soil what many would consider a purely personal quarrel?

We presume that nobody who has marked the recent drift of historical inquiry has much doubt that the story of the American Revolution will eventually be rewritten upon lines materially different from those to which Sir GEORGE TREVELYAN has seen fit to conform. It will never be so rewritten, however, as to convince the reader that the colonies did not do wisely in separating from the mother country.

The National Anthem.

It is a curious fact that so frequently some good American arises with a flat assertion that we have no national anthem, or at any rate that we are not quite sure whether it is "Hail Columbia," "My Country, 'Tis of Thee," "Yankee Doodle" or "The Star Spangled Banner." The truth is that among those who know there is no doubt whatever. The source of doubt is to be found in the fact that the people of these United States have never spontaneously and of one accord chosen an anthem as the English did in 1745. But there has never been any question that the sentiment surrounding the flag has influenced the great majority to prefer "The Star Spangled Banner" as the national hymn.

It has been made so officially by the usage of the Federal Government. It is not at all strange that so few people know this, for only a small percentage of the population is familiar with the customs of army posts or naval vessels. The ceremony of evening colors at all military posts having bands includes the playing of the national anthem, "The Star Spangled Banner," when the flag is lowered for the night. On all naval vessels carrying bands the same custom is observed, and it should be noted as having especial official meaning that in foreign ports "The Star Spangled Banner" is thus proclaimed by our ships as our national hymn.

"Hail Columbia" is one of our patriotic songs, but it has no official standing. No naval or military officer ever rises in a theatre or takes off his hat out of doors when it is played. He does so in the case of "The Star Spangled Banner." "My Country, 'Tis of Thee" has no claims at all. It is nothing more or less than the national anthem of England, with American words set to it. The tune was composed by HENRY CAREY, and first sung by him in 1793. It rapidly gained popularity because of the incursion of the Pretender in 1745, when "God Save the King" began to be sung in the theatres. The theme was taken from an antique melody by Dr. JOHN BULL, whence, as some think, came the appellation of "John Bull" to patriotic England. Germany has also adopted this tune, using it for her "Heil dir im Siegerkranz." Neither do we nor we have any business with it; it belongs to England.

"Yankee Doodle" has never been called our national anthem by any but certain foreign people who are particularly fond of foisting it upon us as our hymn because it is a vulgar, undignified and worthless tune, utterly unfit to express the patriotism of a puissant people. That amiable coterie of British newspaper writers, which does its best to foster the Anglo-American understanding by flinging gibes at us on all occasions insisting that "Yankee Doodle" is our national anthem. It is not so now, and never has been.

More Population Needed by the South.

We have received a report by the secretary of a Louisiana league on an immigration movement to that State which has been started by it. The enterprise affords an illustration of the newly aroused spirit of business progress in the South.

The immigration this league would promote is of farmers from the North to buy undeveloped lands which it has for sale. How far the inducements offered will be successful in attracting that sort of immigration is doubtful. The differences in agricultural methods and social conditions at the South are usually a serious bar to any considerable emigration of farmers from the North.

Moreover, the great need of the South is not so much immigration of that sort as of laborers to till the soil, of which the area still undeveloped is so vast. At this time the volume of foreign immigration, more especially from southern Europe, is coming in at a rate not much behind the highest record in our history. A very great part of these immigrants are hardy Italian peasants trained to agricultural labor, and they come from a climate which makes their adaptation to Southern farming peculiarly great. If the South could divert this stream to its farms and plantations, it would get

speedily a large addition to its population and to its labor supply. Up to this time it has attracted almost none of these immigrants, and it is obliged still to depend almost exclusively on the negro labor of which so many complaints are made by Southerners.

Why does this stream avoid the South and tend rather to congested centres of population at the North, where the peculiar agricultural aptitudes of the immigrants have no chance to be displayed and employed?

It is for two reasons. First, the South generally does not offer high enough wages to attract them. They come to this country with the American standard of wages in their minds as it is fixed at the North, and with a knowledge of it obtained from the reports of their countrymen already here. The wage standard at the South, as fixed for the negroes, does not satisfy their demands. Again, the necessity of competing with negro labor is repulsive to them. Would not a like feeling deter Northern immigration to the South of farmers of the West, for example, who are accustomed to working with their own hands?

It is obvious that, with the continuance and further progress of the agricultural and industrial development of the South, there is coming a time when the necessity for more population to assist in it will compel some readjustment of these conditions, so as to attract thither a large part of the foreign immigration which has yet to come. The Southern States cannot long go on at their present rate of development without recognizing their imperative need of more population, and millions more.

Impossible.

The following letter proposes a substitute for the Hon. CHARLES WARREN FAIRBANKS in the second place on the Roosevelt ticket:

"TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—SIR: THEODORE ROOSEVELT for President and CHARLES EICKEMEYER for Vice-President would make a strong combination. 'The Panama Canal, and our strong foreign policy, linked with the States' Rights issue of the South and the Mormon vote of the Rocky Mountain States, would bring unquestionable Republican victory.'"

KANGAROO.
 "P. S. Constitutionally, New York State Electors could not vote for the Vice-President."
 "New York, March 29."

We violate no confidence when we say that "Kangaroo's" nomination of the Hon. CHARLES EICKEMEYER for Vice-President derives additional interest from the circumstances that the foregoing communication appears to be in the Hon. CHARLES EICKEMEYER's own handwriting.

This philosopher certainly deserves the support of the polygamist vote. Whether he could bring the same to the Roosevelt ticket in sufficient force to insure Republican victory, we are not prepared to say. Nor will it be possible for us to forsake FAIRBANKS and take up EICKEMEYER. We are not even informed whether the polygamist candidate meets the Constitutional requirements as to birth and age.

Assuming that the Hon. CHARLES EICKEMEYER is a natural born citizen at least 35 years old, there remains the serious practical objection which he states so tersely in "Kangaroo's" postscript.

Both ROOSEVELT and EICKEMEYER hail from New York. Mr. ROOSEVELT would never consent to risk the inconvenience of the election of a Democratic Vice-President, even for the sake of attracting to himself, through EICKEMEYER, the entire polygamist vote of the country.

There is a bigger man than SHAKESPEARE—Supreme Court Justice BREWER in Chicago.

Who can say that our great — is not without honor in his own country?

A despatch from Halifax reports that more than 4,000 immigrants have landed at that port this month. Most of these people are for settlement in the Dominion. A notable feature of the immigration appears to be the increase in the number of second-class passengers and the decrease in the number of occupants of the steerage. This points to the arrival of people with a modest supply of money. Many of them will be land buyers, and they will speedily become contributors to Canada's ever increasing wealth.

The Canadian Department of the Interior has recently issued its annual report. It is therein stated that 4,229,011 acres of land, valued at \$14,651,757, were sold last year by the Hudson Bay Company and by railway companies having land grants. This is about as much as those companies sold in the whole of the ten preceding years. There were 32,082 homestead entries, as compared with 1,867 in 1896 and 22,215 in 1897. The homestead entries included a total area of 5,021,280 acres. The total thus acquired for settlement during the year was 9,387,561 acres.

The immigrant arrivals during the year numbered 128,364. Of these, 41,792 came from the British Isles, 37,090 from continental Europe, and 49,473 from the United States. Canada's greatest present need is population, and she seems to be getting it.

It is not unnatural that the National Guard should long for Central Park for a drill ground. But who was the inspired orator that convinced Mayor McCLELLAN that drilling infantry, galloping cavalry and rushing artillery would be beneficial to the lawns of the Park?

The Hon. WILLIAM J. BRYAN had to sit mute in court yesterday, and when he tried to speak the Judge silenced him. Conscientious law takes no account of the individual peculiarities of those who come before its bar. A cruel and unusual punishment was inflicted upon Mr. BRYAN, the full terror of which can be estimated only by those who know him best.

Old Prob's Successful Rivals.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—SIR: The official weather service has been as mild for the last three weeks as the Spanish gunnery of Santiago. The old reliable goosebore for long shots, seaweed and the domestic cat for more immediate information, are far better than the weather service.

NEW YORK, March 29. WETTERWEITER.

A Hilarious Life.

Two microbes fell in love one day. As it was the fashion, Good fortune smiled upon their suit, Smooth ran their tender passion.

They did not want a bank account Nor sigh for silk and satin; He had an honest name, Of double-barrelled Latin.

They had not man's financial woes Whereby much joy he misses; They didn't need the bread and cheese, But lived in style on kisses.

MELANCTHON WILSON.

ON THE ROAD TO LHASA.

The British column which has camped for some months among the Himalayas of Sikkim, northeast India, got under way last week and at last accounts had reached the edge of Tibet and was in camp in Tang La Pass. This gateway between India and Tibet stands 15,700 feet above the sea. It might be inferred that the British force, 1,000 strong, with camp equipment, rifles, four big guns and two Maxim's, would reach such an eminence only with the greatest difficulty. This, however, is not so. The approach to the Tang La Pass has been accurately spoken of as "a gradual and scarcely noticeable ascent." When the column marched from Chumbi to Parit it gradually ascended 4,000 feet, which is not a very stiff climb, being spread out over twenty-one miles; and in the eight miles from Parit to the Pass the ascent was barely 2,000 feet.

These things are worth mentioning because in many descriptions of the route the British are taking into Tibet there have been frequent references to "stupendous passes" and "enormous natural difficulties." They in fact exist only in the minds of writers who have not realized that, though the British have only just reached the political boundary of Tibet, they have been living for months on the Tibetan plateau, the loftiest in the world, and that the passes through the mountains are really very mild affairs.

The first destination of the invading force is Gyantse in Tibet. The British have not yet announced any intention of going beyond that point if they are successful there in making peaceful negotiations with the Tibetans. The ostensible purpose of the expedition is to compel the Tibetans to recognize the treaty obligations by which they agreed to permit trade intercourse between India and southern Tibet, an agreement that has been practically a dead letter ever since it was signed. There may be trouble, however, before the British column reaches Gyantse, as the despatches say an attack is expected between Thuma, which is only a day's journey into Tibet.

No part of the track to Gyantse seems to be a serious difficulty, but it will not be a pleasure excursion, even though the Tibetans offer no opposition. We are reading that the march is very exhausting, that many troops are prostrated by mountain sickness and that the changes in temperature are extreme. This is just what Iglooden, Bogle and other travellers over this route said long ago. Probably no civilized army has ever before attempted to travel 110 miles, the distance between Chumbi and Gyantse, at such an enormous altitude. The column has left behind the charms of Chumbi and is now amid the bare and brown uplands of Tibet, at a height as great as that of Mont Blanc. Bogle wrote of this stretch of road that it traverses a most inhospitable region, where the houses are few, where the sun is very hot by day, the nights are bitter cold and not a tree or plant is seen except in the valley bottoms.

This is the historic road between Sikkim and Tibet; the repellent region through which it extends has, however, never been a barrier to frequent intercourse between the people of Gyantse and their southern neighbors. The aspect of things will change again when the column enters the Nyang Chu Valley, in which Gyantse stands. This valley is one of the richest in Tibet, full of white villages, and all the land is tilled. In fact, Gyantse and its surroundings are a sort of oasis in the wide expanse of bleak and barren plain. The British hope to reach the town in about ten days, which is the ordinary rate of travel. It would seem to depend upon the Tibetans whether the foreign incursion is to be extended to the forbidden city of Lhasa.

A PRIVATE VIEW OF INDIAN POLITICS.

DEAR —: The political aspect in Indiana, so far as Roosevelt is concerned, is precisely what it was a month ago. He is not yet the same even had Mr. Bryan lived, unless he had come squarely to the front as a candidate. Men look for leadership, for a leader to follow, and it is the leader that is in the open that gets the following. Republican Chairman Goodrich, the Governor and all of them, in fact, except Judge Odell, are about as they were before. Roosevelt for the first time—including ladies, and there was no political talk at all, the President conspicuously avoiding it, and ignoring Odell's declaration that he was very angry at Mrs. Roosevelt, declaring that she was very rude to her. Mrs. Odell heard that on the afternoon of her arrival Mrs. Roosevelt was in the White House conversing unoccupied, and she believes she was slighted deliberately.

FRIEND OF BOTH.
 ALBANY, March 30.

The Newly Created Catholic Monologist.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—SIR: I read with much pleasure in to-day's SUN a list of the names of the newly created Catholic Monologist. But why was there not created a number sufficient to make Odell's column a column of a dozen—a baker's dozen for that matter? There is no trouble to find a few more whose missionary labors need to be honored. I will name one, the Rev. R. L. Burdett, who, perhaps one exception, has labored in the missionary field longer than any of these newly created dignitaries. But he is the Epiphany Church and has left his duties to the Rev. R. L. Burdett, when he was sent to Rondout to chant anthems with the wild birds up there. He did not do it, and he is now in the city, and is involved in the church and wiped out its debt also. I feel no captiousness about those who get the dignity. On the contrary, I rejoice for the honor that comes to them. The President's personal others by the frequent hearing of their merits from those who know them. But why do such laborers in the vineyard as Dr. Burdett go unrecognized? If it be no honor to be a missionary, let us laymen, and is hardly entitled to them.

NEW YORK, March 29. A LATIMER.

The "Reliable" Clairvoyant's Failure.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—SIR: Referring to M. Hines, Jr., the "reliable" clairvoyant, who put himself to the test by writing to you on March 16, and whose letter you published a day or two later; I am sorry to hear that he has failed to live up to "some public calamity in the East" on that date. I am now waiting for the floods of March 31, and, incidentally, this being the closing week of March, the weather is doing seem to be very stormy and windy. Any more "reliable" news from Central Falls, R. I.?

NEW YORK, March 29. DOUBTER.

Gen. Gordon on Bayonets at Antislavery.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—SIR: Gen. John R. Gordon, in his recently published recollections, says that at the time of Antislavery he saw a division charge three times without firing a shot, in fact with unloaded guns, and that they were completely wiped out by the Confederate fire. He was never so close to the charge or so near to the enemy as the corps they came. This would indicate that the corps of the kind mentioned by Mr. Van Wagener was observed by Gen. Gordon.

BROOKLYN, March 28. C. C. T.

It Was Only a False Alarm.

FROM THE KANSAS CITY JOURNAL.
 Before a clothes cleaning establishment in Topeka a sign is displayed which reads: "Dyed Here." But it is a false alarm. Satan is still alive and doing business at the Kansas capital.

Her Strained Veloc.

FROM THE BALTIMORE AMERICAN.
 She was a maid
 Saucy,
 Who lived in
 Lushington,
 Pot and pans that
 She was a maid
 She might live
 She was a maid
 And would be
 But she strained her
 Voice while singing
 Through a sieve.

How the Tire Strained.

RE—Did you see about the baboon who carries \$25,000 life insurance?
 SHE—Oh, Charles, how thoughtful of you!

JUDGE PARKER'S SILENCE.

A Friendly View of His Failure to Express Himself on Any Issue.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—SIR: If you turn over your files for Sept. 18, 1892, you will find the following:

JUDGE PARKER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—SIR: Wisdom or folly? Which?

A great effort is being made to overcome the unpopularity of Judge Parker to be a gubernatorial candidate. I desire to come to the Judge's rescue and suggest to all his friends the propriety of a halt.

If he should be defeated in his candidacy, not only would he lose his present position, but it could be said that he had left the bench to reach the Presidency through the Governorship.

If the Democrats should win in the Presidential election, it would fall to the lot of the President-elect to appoint the successor to Chief Justice Fuller, as he will most probably retire in the next six years; and in case of that President succeeding himself, there would be a period of eight years of Democratic administration, terminating ten years hence.

Besides, if the Chief Justice knew that a good Democrat would be appointed in his place he would not at that time retire at all.

Now, all this Judge Parker clearly sees, well knows and deeply feels; and why should his friends be so unwise, so unkind, so cruel, as to prematurely disturb his peace of mind and spoil or jeopardize his prospects?

BROOKLYN, Sept. 18.

As Judge Parker was preserved from exposure to the chances of defeat during that exciting and memorable campaign that would assuredly have attached to him had he met with defeat, and now looms up before us as the most available and satisfactory candidate for the Presidency, it is a curious thing that he did nothing to show that he was at any time seeking the Governorship, but rather, on the other hand, disapproved of the efforts of his friends to labor to displace him from that direction.

In that direction, will you kindly allow another communication in consideration of a seeming determination on the part of some to force the Judge to depart from his habit of silence and give utterance to his political views; in short, abandon his unique position relative to the nomination—a position, in view of the different factions and wrangles in the party, so much to his credit and advantage.

The gist of my communication at this time is this: Continued silence on the part of Judge Parker will be golden.

The meaning will be: "I have endeavored to make a record of my high judicial office to the best of my ability. Should I be asked to fill the highest office in the gift of the American people and be elected thereto, I will enter upon its duties with the same sense of obligation and accountability."

It will mean that a man, a man with an established character, a man that is worthy of confidence, is at the head of the ticket.

A candidate for the Presidency who is known to be a thoroughgoing man, whose known character and ability will be predictive of his course and of the people's confidence in crises as they arise, is just what will suit and please the substantial elements of the party.

A person often shows his ability and good sense, not only in what he says and does, but also, if not more so, in what he does not say and does not do.

Some of Judge Parker's rivals being now in a hole by reason of too much talk and too much misdirected effort, nothing would suit them better than to drag the good Judge down into the same hole and get out themselves on his shoulders.

Let Judge Parker keep still and away from holes.

THE COMING STANDARD BEARER.
 ATLANTIC CITY, March 29.

Tale About a Night in the White House.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—SIR: The last time Governor and Mrs. Odell went to Washington to see President and Mrs. Roosevelt, they went to the White House in the early afternoon. No member of the Roosevelt family greeted them, and they were shown to their room. They stayed there until 4 or 5 o'clock, when a servant brought tea to them. Later they were told that dinner would be served at 8 o'clock. A number of persons had been present at dinner before Odell and Roosevelt for the first time—including ladies, and there was no political talk at all, the President conspicuously avoiding it, and ignoring Odell's declaration that he was very angry at Mrs. Roosevelt, declaring that she was very rude to her. Mrs. Odell heard that on the afternoon of her arrival Mrs. Roosevelt was in the White House conversing unoccupied, and she believes she was slighted deliberately.